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DAILY AND SEMI-WEEKLY.

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GEORGE F. HENSHALLMANAGER
 MONDAY.....MAY 24, 1909

GROWTH OF THE COUNTRY.

Seven hundred pages of solid figures, with scarcely a line of "reading matter" accompanying, make a very dry and, to many people, unattractive looking volume. Yet the Statistical Abstract of the United States, containing this number of pages of solid figures, just issued from the Bureau of Statistics of the Department of Commerce and Labor, offers to the observing reader and student much interesting as well as instructive information. The Statistical Abstract originated in the Bureau of Statistics thirty years ago under the direction of Hon. John Sherman, then Secretary of the Treasury, and in its first issue was a thin pamphlet of but little over 100 pages.

It is interesting to observe, from the figures of the areas of the various States and Territories with which the latest volume opens, that the total continental area, including Alaska, is about equal to that of all Europe; that while the area conceded to the thirteen original States by the peace treaty of 1783 was 828,000 square miles their present area is but 326,000 square miles, the other 502,000 square miles forming in whole or in part thirteen other States, while the remaining 24 States and Territories were created from territory added by purchase or annexation. Of the 88 millions of population occupying this area practically one-third, speaking in round terms, are found in the thirteen original States, another third in the States created from the territory ceded to the common Union by those States, and the remaining third in the area added by purchase or annexation.

The figures of the population of the United States at the decennial censuses as supplied by the Census Bureau show the total number of negroes in the year 1800 as 1 million, speaking in round terms, and in 1900, 8,841,000. The negroes formed in 1800, 18.88 per cent of the population; in 1810, 19.03 per cent; in 1850, 15.68 per cent; in 1860, 14.12 per cent; in 1880, 13.11 per cent; in 1890, 11.92 per cent; and in 1900, 11.59 per cent.

While a large share of the territory of the United States has come under cultivation or individual ownership, the figures quoted in this volume show the amount of land areas still unappropriated and unreserved in 1908 as 754,895,000 acres, of which 368,022,000 acres were in Alaska, 61,177,000 in Nevada, 46,532,000 in Montana, 44,778,000 in New Mexico, and 42,769,000 in Arizona. Swamp and overflow lands are shown to aggregate in round terms 75 million acres, of which 18 1/2 million are in Florida, 9 1/2 million in Louisiana, 6 million in Mississippi and 5 3/4 million in Arkansas.

INDEFENSIBLE SECRECY.

Why should the meetings of the Board of Immigration be secret and held in private rooms? It is a public body created by statute and has no more right to hold its meetings like those of a close corporation than has either the Board of Education or the Board of Health. And when it has held one of its secret sessions, why should its officers and members assume airs of mystery regarding the business done? It is business of the public, the taxpayers put up for it, and the press as agent of the public has a right to be informed of the business, fully and intelligibly, so as to be able to give the public accurate information of what is going on with regard to immigration matters.

If it was a public board of the nation sitting in Washington, whether the press were admitted or not, the news of the meeting would be given out and, if it interested Hawaii, the local papers would have it by cable the same day. Much of Honolulu's official news, suppressed by the pompous wise-heads here, no sooner strikes a department of the national government in Washington than it is given out to the press. Thus, a few years ago, the local reporters at a meeting of the Board of Health were admonished to make no mention of the fact that an outbreak of bubonic plague on a nearby plantation had been traced to germs in certain foodstuffs imported from Japan. "It would be a black eye to Honolulu," was the substance of the reason for suppressing the news. Yet within two weeks full details of the incident were given to the press by the national health authorities in Washington and promptly sent over the wires to every city on the continent by the Associated Press.

Because the planters are largely interested in immigration is no reason why the members of the Board of Immigration should clothe their official doings in mystery and add gross discourtesy to unjustifiable reticence when asked for information regarding the proceedings of that august body.

ARMY AND NAVY OFFICERS DINED

There was a brilliant scene in the rooms of the Commercial Club on Saturday night, when that organization gave a dinner to the officers of the army, the navy and the marine corps. Officers of the regular forces and of the Hawaiian militia in uniform mingling in the reception room and the dining room with the members of the club in quiet civilian apparel made a picturesque combination. Decorations of palms and flowers added to the pleasure of the eye. Steward Hamilton served a fine menu, the waiting corps being alert and prompt.

James Wakefield presided and at the appropriate period eloquently proposed the health of President William Howard Taft, taking occasion at the same time to welcome the guests of the evening.

Captain Rees, commandant of Honolulu naval station, responding to a toast to the navy said a welcome was scarcely needed, for the army and navy had received a thousand welcomes in Honolulu. The navy had been with Hawaii ever since the islands became known to the United States, forming a part of their history and helping them in difficulties. The captain concluded by reading a poem on Oahu which he had written when here in 1876. He was warmly applauded.

Colonel Schuyler responding for the army humorously told of his experience here ten years ago, when passing through to the Philippines as colonel of a volunteer regiment, the fun relating to his compliance with a request of his 1400 troops to be indulged with sea bathing at Waikiki. In conclusion he said if his good fairy godmother asked him what he wished for most he would ask for a silver tongue to express on behalf of the Army its appreciation for the hospitality which Honolulu had shown the service, and he concluded by saying "Aloha nui to Hawaii nei."

A band of musicians led by Sonny Cunha played enlivening selections during the dinner, and after the short speech-making period musical specialties by Henry Clark, R. J. Buchly, J. Dougherty and A. Caceres gave great enjoyment until about 10:45, when the company broke up with a verse of Auld Lang Syne.

The guests of honor, members of the club and a few civilian guests present were as follows:

Fifth Cavalry—Col. W. S. Schuyler, Lieut.-Col. T. K. Hunter, Major F. W. Foster, Capt. J. W. Jenkins, Capt. H. O. Willard, Capt. C. S. Haigh.

Twentieth Infantry—Major S. W. Dunning, Lieut. A. W. Chilton, Capt. W. H. H. Chapman, Major B. B. Ray, Paymaster; Major E. Evelevt Winslow, Engineer Corps; Capt. M. N. Falls, Q. M. Department.

Navy—Capt. C. P. Rees, Lieut.-Commander S. E. Moses, Surgeon Cary D. Langhorne, P. A. Paymaster John R. Hornberger.

Marine Corps—Major Chas. G. Long, First Lieut. E. P. Moses, Capt. W. W. Low, Captain Chandler Campbell, Capt. F. A. Ramsey, Capt. A. T. Marix.

Detached service—Capt. W. H. Waldron, Capt. W. H. Winter.

National Guard—Col. J. W. Jones, Col. C. W. Ziegler, Lieut.-Col. C. B. Cooper, Major W. L. Moore, Capt. A. W. Neely, Lieut.-Col. John W. Short, Lieut. J. D. Dougherty, Lieut. Whitehead, Chaplain Simpson.

A. F. Wall, James F. Morgan, W. Thompson, J. A. McCandless, R. H. Trent, R. J. Buchly, W. R. Farrington, J. D. Tucker, J. L. McLean, J. Wakefield, E. W. Peterson, J. H. Drew, T. H. Petrie, J. Guild, John Fleming, T. M. Church, A. G. M. Robertson, C. H. Atherton, G. Schuman, C. M. V. Forster, W. W. Kirkland, D. H. Lewis, J. H. Mackenzie, W. L. Howard, C. S. Crane, C. H. Merriam, W. T. Lucas, J. T. Warren, J. D. McInerney, C. G. Beckley, R. L. Auerbach, G. W. Smith, J. F. Child, G. H. Angus, J. E. Jaeger, R. B. Booth, Chas. Bon, H. L. Kerr, P. L. Weaver, W. H. Hoogs, E. W. Quinn, John Effinger, R. A. Jordan.

HOW HAWAII IS BEING ADVERTISED

Madera, Cal., Tribune, May 1.—"An Evening in Hawaii" was well carried out last evening at the high school. The music was wholly Hawaiian and the singers caught the spirit of the soft, dreamy, sensuous airs and gave the audience an excellent interpretation. The chorus sang "Hawaii" and "Aloha Oe" very acceptably. They were decorated with paper ilima leis and were there a little darker would have passed for a genuine Hawaiian chorus, so well did they catch the spirit of the music.

The views shown were loaned to the school through the courtesy of the Honolulu Chamber of Commerce and came to the school directly through the courtesy of the directors of Hawaiian interests in Los Angeles. They represented every phase of Hawaiian life and since Principal Bristol had lived in the islands, the pictures were interpreted from the standpoint of experience.

The collection gave a splendid idea of Honolulu—its commercial and social life—showing it to be a city of progress and activity up to date in every particular. The residences shown were beautiful. The portrayal of the play side of life in Hawaii was interesting and the various water scenes were charming and alluring. Many pictures showing the fruits of the soil and illustrating the industries of the island were shown. Perhaps the most interesting were pictures illustrating a trip to the active volcano, Kilauea. Altogether the entertainment was a success and people went away feeling that if opportunity offered, they would surely make a trip to the Paradise of the Pacific.

MAKING A BLUFF.

I was riding on a train the other day when a farmer got on at a small station and took a seat beside me. After something had been said about the weather and the planting season I queried of him:

"Well, are you interested in this tariff revision?"

"I was for a while," he replied.

"But you've lost your interest now?"

"To some extent, yes. When they first began hammering away I was thinking about it day and night. Finally, I sat down and wrote a letter to the President. It was only a bluff, of course, but it went. Yes, sir, I scared Mr. Taft right off his perch. I told him what would be the consequence if the committee on revision didn't take a back seat, and they crawled. When you make a bluff, sir, make a big one. The bigger the bluff the better it goes."

"But what was your bluff about?" I asked.

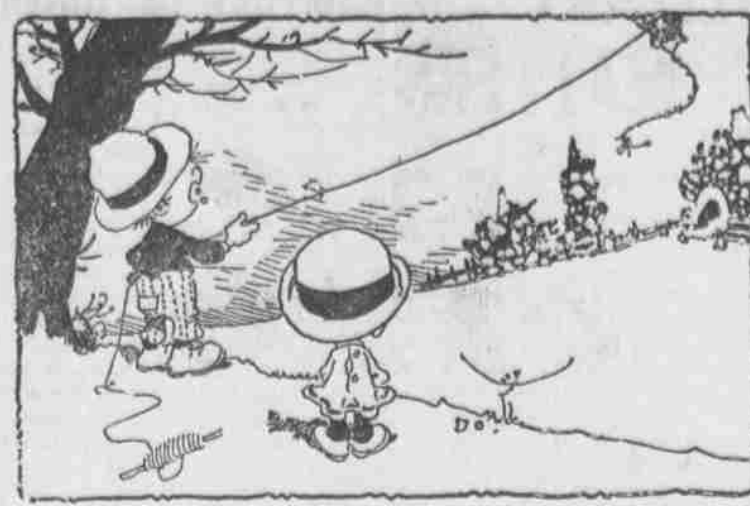
"You mean what did I write to the President? Why, sir, I told him that if the duty on pumpkins was removed and the pauper labor of Europe was permitted to compete with the American farmer we'd get our backs up and ruin the pumpkin pie business within a year. Yes, sir, and I underlined most all the words with red ink. Nothing like a little red ink when you are making a bluff. Looks as if you were willing to shed your blood to make the bluff go."

"And pumpkins are not on the free list?"

"Not a darned pump, and if the farmers of the United States don't present me with a silver medal, then they are an ungrateful lot and can look out for themselves next time for all of me."

The ship Marion Chilcott, bringing fuel oil for this city was sighted off Koko Head at 9 o'clock this morning. George Ade, the man made famous by "Fables in Slang," is a passenger on the Siberia.

Captain Weedon, Albion F. Clark, Dr. W. T. Monsarrat, Daniel Logan, A. P. Taylor, A. T. Wakefield, G. A. Martin, E. T. Paris, J. T. Taylor.



SCIENCE.

"Wot keeps it up, Willie?"
 "Oh, some fool think called 'gravity,' I believe."

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NOTHING DOING.

"Ge! I've heard a sucker's born every minute, but dey don't seem to get borned very quick 'round here."